

The man who knows least can now see plainly . . . what the imperishable thing is he is asked to invest in.—President Wilson

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First to Last—the Truth: News·Editorials·Advertisements

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1918

New York Tribune

WEATHER
Fair and continued cold to-day and tomorrow; fresh northwest to north winds.
Full Report on Page 14

TWO CENTS (In Greater New York and within commuting distance) THREE CENTS Elsewhere

“Our Backs to the Wall,” Says Haig; French Rush to British Army’s Aid

Convention Finds a Basis For Home Rule For Ireland

Ulster and the Customs the Chief Stumbling Blocks, Says Plunkett

He Urges Action On Majority Plan

Settlement of the Question Must Not Be Delayed Further, Asserts Sir Horace

By Arthur S. Draper
(Tribune Cable Service)

LONDON, April 12.—After eight months of deliberation the Irish Convention, composed of representatives of all parties and classes except Sinn Féin, has presented its report to the government, in which a substantial majority agreed to a firm of Home Rule. Because of the opposition of the Ulster Unionists, who balked at the question of customs, it was found impossible to achieve unanimity.

A larger measure of agreement has been reached upon the principle and details of Irish self-government than has ever yet been attained,” wrote Sir Horace Plunkett, chairman of the convention, in a letter to Premier Lloyd George, accompanying the report of the convention’s proceedings. A foundation for an agreement “unprecedented in history” had been laid, he declared.

Although the Irish problem is thus far unsolved, a considerable advance toward an agreement has been made. Sir Horace Plunkett, chairman of the convention, told me to-day that he felt hopeful.

Again a British Problem

Lloyd George’s efforts to get the Irish to solve their own problem have failed and it has become again a British problem. Announcement has also been made that the government plans to offer a form of home rule in the immediate future. At this juncture it is interesting to report that when the question of conscription in Ireland came before the convention, it was decided by a vote of 14 to 17 that conscription would be impracticable except with the approval of an Irish Parliament.

The report of the convention was adopted by a vote of 44 to 29, which Lloyd George announced in Parliament was too small a majority to justify his accepting the recommendation of the convention. The Nationalists, the Southern Nationalists and the Labor members reached an agreement on a scheme of Home Rule and excise, but the question of customs proved to be a stumbling block.

Ulsterites Obdurate

Sir Edward Carson’s followers were obdurate and unyielding, although the Southern Unionists, led by Lord Midleton, were willing, in order that an Irish parliament should be immediately established, to postpone legislative decision upon the ultimate control of customs and excise. In its deliberations, the convention gave special attention to the organization and deliberations of the Philadelphia convention, which drafted the American Constitution. They also studied carefully the question of conscription, and decided to elect Irish members to the British Parliament through the Irish governing body.

Text of Plunkett’s Letter Describing Irish Convention

LONDON, April 12.—Following is the text of the letter of Sir Horace Plunkett, chairman of the Irish Convention, to the Prime Minister, transmitting report of proceedings of the Irish Convention: “I have the honor to transmit herewith a report of the proceedings of the Irish Convention. For the immediate object of the government the report tells all that need be told. It shows that in the convention, while it was not found possible to overcome the objections of the Ulster Unionists, all the majority of the Nationalists, all the Southern Unionists and five out of seven Labor representatives were agreed that the schemes for Irish self-government set out in paragraph 42 of the report should be immediately passed into law. The minority of Na-

Liberty Loan Total Reaches \$451,744,000

Oregon and Iowa Fill Quota; Start on Oversubscription

The American people are speaking in unmistakable terms in answer to the nation’s third call in a year for a war loan. In the first five days of this campaign \$451,744,000 of bonds were bought throughout the country, according to Treasury Department figures announced last night in Washington.

Of this amount the 2d Federal Reserve District, which includes New York, contributed \$206,560,100, somewhat less than one-half. The gain in this district over the previous day was \$26,560,400, whereas the national increase for the day reached \$175,825,000.

Part of this striking rise is explained by the fact that the Philadelphia district yesterday announced it had raised \$31,597,000, whereas on the previous day that district was not heard from. The aggregate made public yesterday accounts for eleven out of twelve of the Reserve districts. Minneapolis has not reported.

Two States Fill Quota

Leaders of the financial offensive in Oregon and Iowa and in the cities of Toledo and Portland, Ore., wired that their districts already had won the honor of filling their entire official quota. Those places are now released to embark on the main job of the campaign—that of decisively oversubscribing. Although the national figures again show a splendid improvement over the same period in the second loan drive, they are not yet up to the standard required to fill the \$3,000,000,000 quota. In the twenty-five active days of the campaign the forty-eight states will have raised \$1,200,000,000 a day to attain the minimum amount of the loan. At this rate the twelve Federal Reserve districts ought to have subscribed \$200,000,000 instead of \$451,744,000. This disparity did not discourage the loan workers, who pointed out that in the previous campaigns the early days ran much further behind.

The story of what New York has done in five days of intensive driving is different. The Second District is raising war dollars at a rate that exceeds the minimum daily requirement to fill the \$300,000,000 minimum. According to the minimum speed this district need have raised only \$180,000,000. It already has turned \$265,600,000 into the bonds.

But members of the Liberty Loan Committee here are not overenthusiastic over these cheerful statistics. Their goal is to raise \$1,500,000,000 in this district before May 4, and at that rate the New York district should already have pledged \$300,000,000 to the government. New York’s aim, as interpreted by Governor Benjamin Strong, chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank, is to give America half of the quota she has assigned to the entire nation. She has during the first five days closely approached half of the national total.

Reports of other districts follow: Chicago \$55,210,000 Boston 46,361,000 Cleveland 33,359,000 Brooklyn 31,597,000 Philadelphia 29,268,000 St. Louis 15,347,000 Kansas City 12,597,000 San Francisco 11,428,000 New Orleans 9,916,000 Atlanta 9,059,000

The unfavorable weather, according to the loan workers, is retarding the campaign. In this city yesterday all the spectacular features, such as the Barnum & Bailey parade and the start of Lieutenant Joseph C. Stehlin on his airplane flight across the state, had to be postponed. Moreover, the various outdoor meetings had to be called off and the open-air booths had to be closed for the day.

Programme for To-day

The Liberty Loan Committee, having arranged an elaborate programme of events for to-day, hopes for better operation from those who control the weather. The opening of “Liberty Land” to-night at the 69th Regiment Armory, at which Cardinal Farley, Secretary Daniels and Governor Whitman are scheduled to speak, will be the most important local celebration. Much interest, too, has been shown in the Italian Day celebration, which will take place at Washington Square to-night. The spirit of the Italian people will be interpreted also at noon meetings at the Liberty Bell, the Liberty Bank and the Liberty Theatre.

Of the official total announced for this district yesterday New York City gave \$168,787,700. The analysis of the figures follows: SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED
New York City Total to date, \$168,787,700
Manhattan \$122,618,000
Brooklyn 15,570,150
Bronx 571,350
Queens 1,753,350
Richmond 278,550
Total \$168,787,700
SUB-DISTRICTS
No. 1—Buffalo \$1,355,150
No. 2—Rochester 2,570,150
No. 3—Syracuse and Utica 2,036,050
No. 4—Binghamton 1,129,050
No. 5—Albany 628,550
No. 6—Long Island, outside of New York City 1,448,200
No. 7—Northern New Jersey 18,505,250
No. 8—Fairfield County, Conn.; Westchester and Rockland counties, N. Y. 3,461,250
Total outside New York City \$37,772,400
Total for district \$206,560,100
Details of the Liberty Loan campaign on Page 7.

Americans Rout Foe in Counter Blow Near Verdun

Germans Repulsed in Attack in Apremont Forest Sector

U. S. Troops and French Join Ranks

Pershing’s Men Take 22 Prisoners of Six Different Units

PARIS, April 12.—American and French troops, fighting together, repelled a German attack to-day in the Apremont Forest. The Americans captured many prisoners.

The French official statement on this action says:

“In the Apremont Forest the enemy delivered against our positions in the Brule Wood a powerful attack, gaining a foothold in our advanced elements. A spirited counter attack by the French and American troops, acting together, immediately drove them out. Twenty-two prisoners belonging to six different units were taken by the Americans.

The Apremont Forest is directly southeast of Verdun, at the foot of the heights of the Meuse. American troops have only recently taken over the trenches in this sector.

(By The United Press)

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMIES IN FRANCE, April 12.—

After repulsing two German attacks on the American positions northwest of Toul, American troops to-day counter attacked and recaptured an observation hill.

The American troops battled with the Germans all day, infantry and artillery participating.

At a late hour this afternoon the fighting was continuing.

Germans Driven Back In Attempt to Reach Third American Line

(By The Associated Press)

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, April 12.—In the raid carried out by the Germans on Wednesday against the Americans northwest of Toul the enemy intended to penetrate to the third line positions, according to information obtained from a prisoner. This is corroborated by material found on dead Germans. The enemy carried wire, dynamite, trenching tools and other implements for organizing the positions.

The Americans knew in advance of the proposed attack through information obtained a day or two previously from prisoners captured by the French on an adjacent sector.

The attack was made by a special battalion of 800 shock troops, who had rehearsed the operation for two or three weeks behind the lines. As soon as the German barrage began the American batteries, without waiting for a rocket signal, laid down a counter barrage, with the result that less than 200 of the enemy succeeded in climbing out of their trenches and advancing toward the American line.

The German officers sent the men right through the barrage, but only two succeeded in reaching the front line. Both of these were taken prisoner, one of them dying a short time afterward from wounds.

When the German barrage started the American outposts moved in to the first line, where, with other infantrymen and machine gunners, they waited for the advancing enemy. The Americans poured a deadly fire into the raiders, then climbed out of the trenches and engaged with grenades and in hand-to-hand fighting the few Germans who were able to cross No Man’s Land. The American infantrymen drove the enemy back to his own lines, and, protected by machine gun and automatic fire, dragged the German dead back to the American trenches for identification.

There Must Be No Retirement, Haig’s Order

LONDON, April 12.—Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a special order of the day addressed to “All Ranks of the British Army in France and Flanders,” says:

“Three weeks ago to-day the enemy began his terrific attacks against us on a fifty-mile front. His objects are to separate us from the French, to take the Channel ports and to destroy the British army.

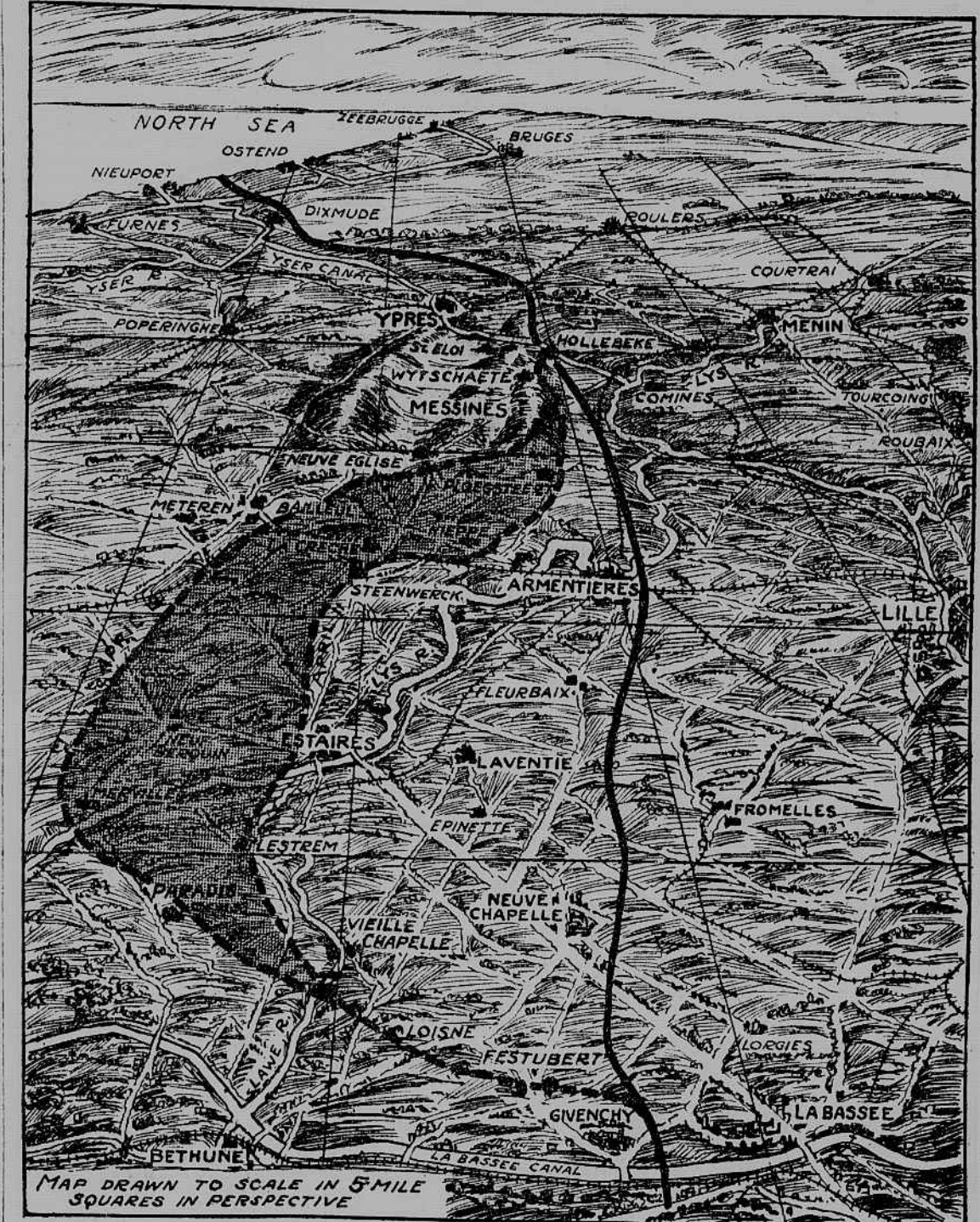
“In spite of throwing, already, one hundred and six divisions into the battle and enduring the most reckless sacrifice of human life, he has yet made little progress toward his goals.

“We owe this to the determined fighting and self-sacrifice of our troops. Words fail me to express the admiration which I feel for the splendid resistance offered by all ranks of our army under the most trying circumstances.

“Many amongst us are now tired. To those I would say that victory will belong to the side which holds out the longest. The French army is moving rapidly and in great force to our support. There is no other course open to us but to fight it out.

“Every position must be held to the last man. There must be no retirement. With our backs to the wall and believing in the justice of our cause, each one of us must fight to the end. The safety of our homes and the freedom of mankind depend alike upon the conduct of each one of us at this critical moment.”

THE GERMAN SWING AROUND THE MESSINES RIDGE



The heavily shaded area between the two broken lines is the German gain for the day, as reported in last night’s dispatches. The solid line is the front at the start of the offensive last Tuesday morning. It will be observed the Germans are striking northwest instead of west, undoubtedly to get to the rear of Messines Ridge, or even to turn other ridges running generally north and south still further to the west.

German Airships Bomb the East Coast of England

LONDON, April 12.—A German aerial raid was made on the east coast of England this evening. One or two of the raiders succeeded in penetrating further inland.

Field Marshal French, commander of the forces of the United Kingdom, issued the following report on the raid: “Some hostile airships crossed the east coast this evening and proceeded to attack certain Eastern Midland districts. One or two raiders succeeded in penetrating further inland, where some bombs are reported to have fallen. Further details are not yet available.

“The raid is still in progress.

Germans Make Night Air Raid on Paris

PARIS, April 12.—German airplanes attempted a raid on the Paris district to-night. They dropped a few bombs. Eleven persons were killed and fifty injured, according to the latest official information.

German Fleet Preparing for A Great Raid

GENEVA, Switzerland, April 12.—

Greatest activity reigns at German naval bases, especially at Kiel. Coal and ammunition are being shipped to the fleet in large quantities, according to information received here this morning from a reliable neutral source.

German naval contingents, with heavy guns, were recently recalled from the Western front to join the fleets, and were replaced by Austrian artillery manned by land forces.

Indications are that a naval raid of great magnitude is about to be attempted.

Paris Shelled at Night by Big Gun; 2 Killed, 12 Hurt

PARIS, April 12.—The Germans renewed this morning the bombardment of Paris with their long-range guns.

For the first time since the bombardment German shells reached the Paris region after sunset. A projectile struck somewhere near the city at 8:05 o’clock this evening.

In the Paris district to-day two persons were killed and twelve wounded.

When the Foundling Asylum in the Rue de la Creche was struck yesterday three persons there were killed and eleven wounded. Within the hospital were thirty women with new-born babies. One nurse, one patient and one baby were killed, while two probationers, six women patients and three babies were injured.

The building is two stories high and the shell entered on the ground floor and burst in the middle of a ward. Another shell struck an open-air bowling alley and killed a man and a boy and wounded ten other persons.

Germans Plunge 3 Miles Further; Capture Messines

Enemy Drives Wedge Twelve Miles Broad in Attempt to Envelop Heights Held by the British in Face of Repeated Attacks—Town of Merville Falls to Kaiser’s Troops

Berlin Reports Total Captures Of 20,000 Prisoners, 200 Guns

Foe Has Used 1,485,000 in Offensive—French Repel Renewed Attacks Between the Luce and Avre Rivers, Directed Against Amiens—Foch Believed Ready for Counter Blow

Like Joffre before the Battle of the Marne, Marshal Haig yesterday issued an order to his troops that the time for retirement had ended, and every position must be held until the last defender was dead.

Great Britain is at bay. “With backs to the wall, each must fight to the end,” said Haig, adding that the French were moving to support the British “rapidly and in great strength.”

At the capture of Armentieres, Berlin announced, the Germans took 50 officers, 3,000 men, 45 cannon, numerous machine guns and rich booty of many sorts.

The Germans claim to have taken in their new offensive 20,000 prisoners, including one British and one Portuguese general, and 200 guns.

The enemy is now driving rapidly northwest between Bethune and Messines Ridge, aiming to envelope the latter after failing to take it by frontal attacks.

In the last twenty-four hours he has conquered a strip of territory twelve miles broad and two and a half to three and a half miles deep, which includes Merville and reaches the important supply railway southwest of Bailleul.

Messines is in German hands, but the British hold the crest of the ridge, after losing it and taking it again in a great counter attack.

Haig reported to-night that the enemy had also made slight progress in a southwest direction, between the Luce and Clarence Rivers. If the Germans strike here they menace France’s remaining coal area.

Fighting continued all along the line last night with the greatest fury. The Germans have now kept up the drive without a pause for four days.

At the same time the Germans made a very strong local attack on the French this morning, near the juncture of the Luce and Avre rivers, where they are closest to Amiens. Desperate attempts to advance at Houdouin proved in vain. The foe took Hangard-en-Santerre, but the French in a counter attack regained the western end of the village. The battle here continues.

More than 110 German divisions (about 1,485,000 men) have been engaged since the start of the offensive, Haig reported last night, and over forty of these have been thrown against the Allied line two or three times.

Paris remains confident of the outcome, expecting a turn of the tide soon. In some quarters it is believed Foch is about to strike a great counter blow. Some observers think the spot selected will be the front north and northwest of Rheims, where artillery and raiding activity has been pronounced.

British Answer Each Attack With Desperate Counter Charge

(By The Associated Press)

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, April 12.—Throughout last night and this morning the northern battle line has continued to seethe with attacks and counter attacks. From Givenchy to the Luce River the situation remained unchanged, but further north the British withdrew somewhat from a point west of Estaires northward to the region of Steenwerck. There was desperate fighting about Vielle Chapelle during the night as the result of heavy hostile attacks.

The famous 51st Division stood its ground in the face of vicious thrusts by superior numbers of the enemy and inflicted most severe casualties on the attacking forces. This morning the enemy was pressing hard in the region of Le Becque, Steenwerck and Merville, while further north the German gunners at 2:45 o’clock opened a terrific bombardment of the much-contested ground east of Ploegsteert. At the southern end of the battle-front the enemy at 3 o’clock this morning commenced a heavy bombardment of the zone from Bray to Corbie and also kept the valley west of Sailly-le-Sec under fire throughout the night. The trend of the enemy’s attacks yesterday and last night in the Armentieres region was to narrow the front and push strong-